

# Contacts for More Information

Your EPD permitting or compliance contact is a good place to start if you have questions about reporting requirements.

For additional information on the laboratory accreditation rule and how laboratory accreditation may impact you, please contact the following Georgia Environmental Protection Division staff:

## Division-wide Coordination

Ted Jackson, (404) 651-5155

## Air

Ross Winne, (404) 363-7000

## Drinking Water

Lynne Grubb, (404) 656-4807

## Hazardous Waste

David Reuland, (404) 657-8600

## Laboratory

Phillip Mitchell, (678) 248-7384

## Solid Waste

June Li, (404) 362-2537

## Wastewater

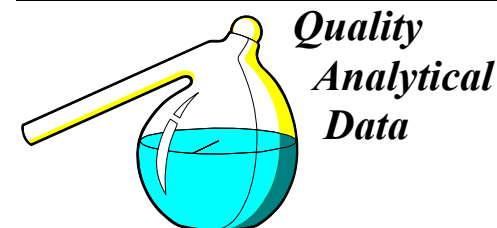
Mike Phipps, (404) 362-2627



### **Georgia Environmental Protection Division**

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# Georgia Rules for Commercial Environmental Laboratory Accreditation



*to Support  
Environmental  
Protection*



Georgia Department of Natural Resources  
Environmental Protection Division  
2 Martin Luther King Jr. Drive SE  
Suite 1152 East Floyd Tower  
Atlanta, GA 30334-9000

*Revised May 2013*

## Law and Definitions

Georgia state law (O.C.G.A. § 12-2-9) requires all commercial environmental laboratories submitting data to the Environmental Protection Division for regulatory purposes to be **approved or accredited** as specified in EPD's rules and regulations. Additionally, any person submitting data **prepared** by a commercial analytical laboratory to the Division for regulatory purposes shall stipulate that the laboratory is **approved or accredited**.

The responsibility for submitting acceptable analytical data lies with the person subject to regulation under Georgia's environmental statutes, permits and rules.

**Commercial Environmental Laboratory** means: Any laboratory that provides analyses of environmental samples on a fee or contract basis. A laboratory operated by the State, a city, county, local authority, or an industrial facility is typically not considered a commercial environmental laboratory.

**Approved** means: The acceptance of a commercial laboratory by accreditation or certification. The approval is valid for the time period and tests included in the scope of accreditation.

**Data submitted for regulatory purposes** means: Any data which is to be submitted to the Environmental Protection Division, or required to be retained on site for review by EPD, except for:

- a.) Initial Hazardous Site Response Act (HSRA) data;
- b.) Data obtained from *in-situ* analysis;
- c.) Turbidity data for construction stormwater permits;
- d.) Tests for which accreditation or certification are unavailable.

**Effective Date:** July 01 2001

## Benefits

- Improve credibility and acceptability of data to customers and regulators.
- Replace redundant and often contradictory inspections with comprehensive standardized inspections.
- Enhance the laboratory's ability to compete in Georgia, nationally, and internationally.

## Accrediting Authorities

Commercial environmental laboratories may obtain accreditation from the any of the following authorities:

These states are acceptable as accrediting authorities:  
National Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program conducted by The NELAC Institute.  
Telephone: (817) 598-1624  
Internet: [www.nelac-institute.org](http://www.nelac-institute.org)

CA, FL, IL, KS, LA, MN, NH, NJ, NY, OR, PA, TX, UT, VA

These third party accrediting authorities are acceptable:

**American Association for Laboratory Accreditation**  
Telephone: (301) 644-3248  
Internet: [www.a2la.org](http://www.a2la.org)  
**American Industrial Hygiene Association**  
Telephone: (703) 849-8888  
Internet: [www.aiha.org](http://www.aiha.org)  
**American National Standards Institute National Accreditation Board (ACCLASS)**  
Telephone: (703) 836-0025  
Internet: [www.aiclasscorp.com](http://www.aiclasscorp.com)  
**Canadian Association for Laboratory Accreditation**  
Telephone: (613) 233-5300  
Internet: [www.cala.ca](http://www.cala.ca)  
**NSF International Inc**  
Telephone: (800) NSF-MARK  
Internet: [www.nsf.org](http://www.nsf.org)  
**Quality Associates International LLC**  
Telephone: (800) 962-0600  
Internet: [www.qai-online.com](http://www.qai-online.com)

ISO 17025 is the basis for accreditation.

## Stipulations

Any person submitting data to EPD prepared by a commercial analytical laboratory shall stipulate that the laboratory is approved (Chapter 391-3-26-.05). The stipulation shall include:

1. Name of the laboratory
2. Name of the accrediting agency
3. Accreditation number or identifier issued by the accreditation agency
4. Scope of accreditation relevant to the data submitted (e.g., air, drinking water, non-potable water, solid/hazardous wastes)
5. Effective (or issued) date of accreditation
6. Expiration date of accreditation

### Example Stipulation

Laboratory: Georgia Testing Lab, Inc.

Accreditor: NELAP accrediting authority, A2LA, ACLASS, AIHA, CALA, NSF, QAI

Accreditation ID: 123.01

Scope: Non-potable water

Effective: July 1, 2013

Expires: June 30, 2014

This stipulation shall be on each report or may be submitted in a separate document with the first report of the calendar year.

## Drinking Water Analysis

Commercial environmental laboratories approved under this Rule who seek to analyze drinking water samples for compliance with the Georgia Rules for Safe Drinking Water should contact the EPD Drinking Water Program. A completed application package including proficiency-testing results is required.